

# **DISTRICT III ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES FOR AUGUST 1, 2000 7:00 p.m.**

The District Advisory Board III was held in room 117, Colvin Mini-City Hall, 2820 S. Roosevelt.

## **Members Present Members Absent**

Brent Turnipseed

Jim Gulick

Ora Nestleroad

Judy Dillard

Phil Bloomquist

John Kemp

Vice-Mayor Phil Lambke

Sammy Rivera, Staff

Matt Foley

Bill Ward

Lois A. Newman Phyllis Hall

Gene Fuhr

## **Guests/Staff**

Nile Dillmore, W.I.N. President

Ray Ontiveros, Planning Department

Vice-Mayor Phil Lambke called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The minutes for July 18, 2000 were approved as submitted.

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

### **Alternative Correctional Housing**

Nile Dillmore, President of Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, made a presentation on this topic. Mr. Dillmore stated that the City Council adopted an amendment on July 18, 2000 to allow residents of halfway houses to be employed by their residential facility. Mr. Dillmore told Board Members that the City Council proposition restricts such employment to non-supervisory positions. Also, according to Mr. Dillmore this change goes against standards already established and adopted by the Alternative Correctional Housing Board and the Kansas Department of Corrections. This standard prohibits a halfway house client from being employed by the facility in which they reside.

Board Member Brent Turnipseed wanted to know about the details of the proposal.

Nile Dillmore responded that the amendment allows residents of halfway houses to be employed at the place where they live. The concern is that this measure will provide some source of control over other clients. Also, there is no system in place to hold these individuals accountable at all times.

Board Member John Kemp wanted to know how this change is going to benefit halfway houses providers. Nile Dillmore responded that the direct benefit is going to be financial. They will save money by employing one of their residents by paying them less than what they will pay to a non-resident employee.

Board Member Malt Foley wanted to know if taxpayers' funds are currently utilized to fund these facilities. He also stated that if that is the case; citizens have the right to have a say in the matter. Nile Dillmore responded that this is not the case of these facilities because residents are required to work in order to pay for their stay. Therefore, these institutions are supported solely by the residents and not by government.

Board Member Judy Dillard commented that residents of these facilities do not need to be a supervisor in order to have control over others. Board Member John Kemp responded to Board Member Judy Dillard's comment by saying that the proposed change states "non-supervisory" employment" is the real issue that needs to be addressed. Board Member Judy Dillard again responded that a resident of a halfway house does not need to be a supervisor in order to have control over other people. Nile Dillmore stated that recent documentation presented by the State of Kansas Department of Corrections showed that there is a serious problem with overcrowded jails in Kansas. A great percentage of those entering State jails are parole and probation violators. Mr. Dillmore told Board Members that a current regulation on these facilities provides increased safety and regulations to protect citizens and their communities.

Board Member John Kemp wanted to know when is the Council going to make the recommendation to change current regulations. Nile Dillmore responded that the City Council already presented their first reading on this issue on their July 18, 2000 meeting.

Their second reading is expected to occur within 30 days after the date of the first reading.

Board Member Gene Furh wanted to know if the City Council is considering a change in the wording on this document. Vice-Mayor Phil Lambke responded that this measure does not take any funds from the State nor tax money. All the services that these facilities are providing to their clientele do not cause any financial burden to the government. Vice-Mayor Lambke also told Board Members that these institutions are providing these services on their own. Clients under current proposal are not allowed to do clerical or record keeping work. Board Member Brent Turnipseed stated that clients of these facilities are already in and out of there because they are required to find and keep a full time job that pays at least minimum wage. But a great number of them choose to stay there and work every day. Board Member Brent Tumipseed also told Board Members that it seems like halfway houses owners/managers want to hire someone from inside to perform certain duties. Vice-Mayor Lambke responded to Board Member Brent Turnipseed that halfway houses are saving more money by hiring someone from within.

Board Member Judy Dillard commented that halfway house residents deserve a chance to rebuild their lives, to go straight without fighting for power. Board Member Malt Foley commented that the City amendment seems to be prone for abuse among those employed from within.

Mr. Dillmore submitted a letter from his organization Wichita Independent Neighborhoods (WIN) to be included in these minutes. A copy of this letter will be attached to the hard copy of this document.

Vice-Mayor Phil Lambke asked Board Members to provide a recommendation in regard to this amendment. Vice-Mayor Lambke wanted to know if Board Members agreed on keeping the amendment that allows residents to be employed by the halfway house where they reside or to go back to the original regulation that prohibits such arrangements. It was the Board Members consensus that the wording should be changed to its original version. Therefore, Board Members recommended to change the wording in order to prohibit a halfway house client from being employed by the facility in which they reside.

## PLANNING

### 2. Hilltop Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

Ray Ontiveros, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission Senior Planner, made a presentation on this topic. Mr. Ontiveros stated that it has taken several years to put this plan together. A group of City and private agencies had worked together to request and access grants in order to obtain needed funding to pay for this project. This project has been a success because the community has been involved in it. Community organizations like the Free Evangelical Church, The Alliance and the Neighborhood Association have been actively involved in this project since its beginnings. Citizens of this community had provided the MAPC with valuable input that provided to be helpful in determining the needs of Hilltop. Based on these goals, the plan is to transfer them into actions that will benefit the residents of this area. The intent of this plan is to assist with the development of programs for children, drug and crime prevention, remove barriers from homebuyers, etc. This plan is not intended to rebuild the whole community, but instead to develop new housing, parks, better street usage, proper street illumination, etc. This plan will take a series of steps that have been approved by the MAPC. Now it needs a positive recommendation from DAB III to approve it. The third step is to obtain the approval from the City Council to start the plan. Fourth, the stakeholders of this community will seat down using this plan to establish priorities in order to determine what is going to be done first.

Board Member Judy Dillard wanted to know how the proposed plan for Hilltop is going to address the serious sewer line problem for this community. Mrs. Dillard also commented that it is important for residents of Hilltop to know where to find these lines as this information helps potential developers in the area. Ray Ontiveros responded that any mayor developments or constructions in the area would require the replacement of or repair of sewer lines in the area. Board Member Malt Foley commented that the residents of Hilltop are aware of the exact locations where these problematic lines are located. Mr. Ontiveros stated that the MAPC has maps showing where these sewer lines are.

Board Member Phil Bloomquist wanted to know why this proposed plan is not addressing the issue of property management. Mr. Bloomquist also believes that this plan is too broad. He also told board members that there is a need for a more specific plan. Vice-Mayor Phil Lambke responded that it is up to the Hilltop Neighborhood Association to come up with specific things that they want to implement. Ray Ontiveros responded that the MAPC addresses those issues on pages 28,29 and 34 of the Hilltop Improvement Plan Handbook. Board Member Phil Bloomquist made a recommendation for the City to facilitate this opportunity to Hilltop residents. Vice-Mayor Lambke responded that Hilltop residents are the ones who know what is more important to them; therefore they should come to the City with the priorities of those things they want us to take care of first.

Mr. Ontiveros submitted a letter that provided DAB Members with the highlights of the proposed plan to be included in these minutes. A copy of this letter will be attached to the hard copy of this document.

After hearing this presentation, the consensus of DAB III is to support the recommendation of the plan.

## BOARD AGENDA

### 3. Assisting People in Need

Board Member Brent Tumipseed made a presentation on this topic. Mr. Tumipseed is the Director of "Streets of Love," a food and clothing ministry that provides to thousands of Wichitans every week. Mr. Tumipseed stated that more than 70% of his ministry recipients are elderly people who worked all of their lives and they are now in need of help but have fallen into the cracks. Mr. Tumipseed gave a handout to Board Members that explains the work that his organization is doing with the community. This handout has been included at the end of these minutes. Mr. Tumipseed's organization is

in the process of acquiring a larger facility in order to be able to increase and provide more services to people in need in Wichita and surrounding communities.

Board Member Brent Turnipseed is seeking support from the District Advisory Board to receive a letter of support from the City. His organization is applying for a foundation grant to purchase a building in downtown and this letter is important to obtain the assistance needed. Vice-Mayor Lambke responded that it seems like he is asking the Board to support his efforts and the Vice-Mayor proceeded to present a motion to provide support to Streets of Love Ministries and to explore any possible assistance. This motion was approved unanimously.

#### Communication among DAB's

Board Member Phil Bloomquist made a presentation on this subject. Mr. Bloomquist told Board Members that there is a need to establish guidelines to improve the current levels of communication among all DAB's. Mr. Bloomquist stated that Board Members of District III should be aware of what is happening in other DAB's as well as to be able to know what can be done to help them, when there is a need. Mr. Bloomquist said that this process is needed in order to create a more effective way of communicating among DAB's.

Board Member Phil Bloomquist wanted to know if Members of Board III could receive a copy of other DAB's agendas and minutes in order to stay update with things that are happening in other parts of the City. Vice-Mayor Lambke responded that the Agendas and Minutes of other DAB's could be seen at the City of Wichita web site, [WWW.Wichitagov.org](http://WWW.Wichitagov.org). The Vice-Mayor also told Board Members that he would bring the request before the Council.

#### 5. September DAB meeting

The regularly scheduled DAB meeting falls the night after Labor Day. As a reminder, District III Board Members were informed that they will meet next month on its scheduled date of September 5th, 2000.

#### 6. Problem Properties

DAB III Members reported the following problem properties or complaints:

##### Field Service Station

Board Members wants to know who owns this Field Service Station that seems closed or abandoned, located west of the intersection of Pawnee and Hillside.

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Public Utility Pole

Board Members wants to know who is responsible to pay for the electricity used by this utility pole that provides light to residents of the 4100 block of F. Wilma in Hilltop.

Junk Cars in Backyard

Board Member Judy Dillard is reporting 2 junk cars in the back yard of 1647 E. Selma that are visible from Hydraulic.

8. Problem Properties Update

No updates at this time.

9. OTHER BUSINESS